

What is claimed is:

1. A driver for a fastener, comprising:

a shaft having a tip which is tapered along its length, wherein a first cross-section along said length define a regular polygon of a first size and a second cross section along said length define a regular polygon of a relatively smaller second size, said regular polygons being rotationally offset relative to each other.

2. A driver according to claim 1, wherein:

when said tip is viewed end on, said polygon defined by said first cross-section appears to circumscribe said polygon defined by said second cross-section.

3. A driver according to claim 1, wherein:

said regular polygon is a hexagon.

4. A driver according to claim 1, wherein:

said regular polygon is a square.

5. A driver according to claim 1, wherein:

said shaft has a proximal end which defines a non-circular cross-sectional shape.

6. A driver according to claim 1, wherein:

said shaft has a proximal end which is provided with a handle.

7. A driver for a fastener, comprising:

a shaft having a driving tip with a length adapted to be inserted into a socket of a fastener, said driving tip being tapered along said length and twisted at a constant angle, wherein a cross-section through said tip defines a regular polygon.

8. A driver according to claim 7, wherein:

a cross-section at any point along said length of said tip defines said regular polygon.

9. A driver according to claim 7, wherein:

said regular polygon is a hexagon.

10. A driver and fastener system, comprising:

a) a fastener including a socket with a depth and which defines a regular N-sided polygon shape; and

b) a driver including a shaft with a tip having a length L substantially corresponding to said depth, said tip extending between an end of said tip and a location on said tip, wherein cross-sections through said tip define regular N-sided polygons, and said tip being tapered along said length such that a first N-sided polygon defined at said end is smaller than a second N-sided polygon defined at said location, and said tip being twisted

at an angle such that said first and second N-sided polygons are rotationally offset relative to each other.

11. A system according to claim 10, wherein:

said angle is substantially constant and within ten percent of θ , where θ is determined from trial and error by,

$$d_{\theta} = d_o \cos \theta + \frac{d_o \sin \theta}{\tan(90 - \frac{180}{N})}, \text{ where}$$

d_o is a diagonal from a center of said first N-sided polygon to a corner of said first N-sided polygon, and

d_{θ} is a diagonal from a center of said second N-sided polygon to a corner of said second N-sided polygon at said constant angle and distance L.

12. A system according to claim 10, wherein:

when said tip of said driver is viewed end on, said second N-sided polygon appears to circumscribe said first N-sided polygon.

13. A system according to claim 10, wherein:

said regular N-sided polygon is a hexagon.

14. A system according to claim 10, wherein:

said regular N-sided polygon is a square.

15. A system according to claim 10, wherein:

said shaft has a proximal end which defines a non-circular cross-sectional shape.

16. A system according to claim 10, wherein:

said shaft has a proximal end which is provided with a handle.

17. A system according to claim 10, wherein:

said tip adjacent said point makes planar contact with a facet of socket.